

Washington, D.C. 20505

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11 April 1986

The Honorable Dave Durenberger
Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence
United States Senate
Washington, D.C. 20510

Dear Mr. Chairman:

I write in response to your letter of March 18.

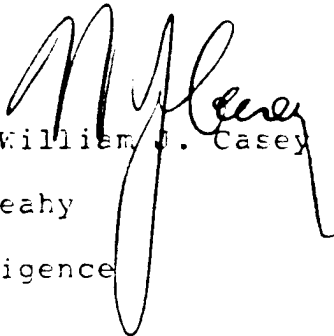
I appreciate your expression of support for the concerns I outlined in my letter of December 24, 1985 to Chairman Hamilton of the House Permanent Select Committee on Intelligence.

I believe that the interpretation of Senate Resolution 400 and Title V of the National Security Act set forth in your letter of March 5 is consistent with the position I took in my letter to Chairman Hamilton. I trust we can agree it is appropriate and proper for the Agency to cooperate with non-oversight committees on matters clearly within their jurisdiction if it can be accomplished without exposing sensitive sources and methods of intelligence. Furthermore, the Agency remains prepared to furnish intelligence products to non-oversight committees that have a demonstrated need for them. At the same time, we are in accord that sensitive sources and methods information, operational details and information concerning those special intelligence activities called "covert actions", fall within the Committee's exclusive jurisdiction. We will continue to view our oversight committees as the solely authorized recipients of such matters.

I, too, recognize that judgments may turn on the facts and circumstances of a particular case. Nonetheless, our letters reflect that we share the same basic position on this important subject. Proceeding from that position, I believe we can work together to insure effective Congressional oversight as well as the protection of sensitive intelligence information.

Let me also thank you for your continuing extension of the Committee's good offices and physical facilities for use by the Agency in its dealings with other Senate Committees and Members. While it may seem a relatively small matter, on a day-to-day basis it goes a long way towards easing the concerns which I expressed.

Sincerely,


William J. Casey

cc: The Honorable Patrick J. Leahy
Vice Chairman
Select Committee on Intelligence

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